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APOSTOLIC NUNCIO DENIES GOING TO BOGOTA TO MEDIATE

PY041240 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1215 GMT 4 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Mar (NA)--The apostolic nuncio to Argentina, Pio Laghi, today denied that he is going to Bogota to mediate the release of the 35 hostages guerrillas are holding at the Dominican Embassy in Bogota. Laghi said the Vatican is sending him to Bogota to investigate the condition or the apostolic nuncio in Bogota, who is among those being held hostage. Laghi made this statement minutes before boarding the plane that is taking him to Colombia.

REFUGEES IN MANAGUA EMBASSY GRANTED SAFE-CONDUCTS

PY050150 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0034 GMT 5 Mar 80 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 4 Mar (NA)--It was learned from authorized sources here today that the Nicaraguan Government has granted safe-conducts to 12 persons in asylum at the Argentine Embassy in Managua to leave the country. The authorized sources did not disregard the possibility that the Argentine Government may soon send an airplane to Managua to evacuate these persons.

FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR MAY VISIT USSR

PY042313 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2355 GMT 3 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Mar (NA)--An Argentine Foreign Ministry spokesman last night said that there is a possibility that Foreign Minister Carlos Washington Pastor will visit Russia. He said: "We do not dismiss this possibility but nothing has been decided in this regard so far." The spokesman added: "There are many possibilities within the Argentine foreign minister's schedule of visits to other countries, among which is the Soviet Union." He noted, however, that "it must be made very clear that, although we do not dismiss this possibility, nothing has been decided in this regard so far."

SOVIET AMBASSADOR COMMENTS ON BILATERAL TRADE

PY041359 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2140 GMT 1 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Mendoza, 1 Mar (TELAM)--The Soviet ambassador to Argentina, Sergey Romanovich Striganov, who is attending the wine festival in this city, has stated that his country is interested in purchasing Argentine wines. He said, however, that Argentine wines are much more costly than those offered by other countries. The diplomat added that the high cost of wines was the determining factor in the failure of the negotiations begun several years ago in this regard by Russian wine producers during a visit they made to Mendoza. The ambassador noted, however, that Argentina is a good market for the purchase of grain and that the commercial balance between the two countries indicates that the Soviet Union sells to Argentina only one-tenth of the volume that it purchased from Argentina.

BRIEFS

EURODOLLAR LOAN APPROVAL--Buenos Aires, 25 Feb (TELAM)--The national executive branch has approved a $350-million loan agreement with the Eurodollar market. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1425 GMT 25 Feb 80 PY]

GOVERNMENT COMMISSION HELD HOSTAGE IN RIBERALTA

PY041820 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Mar 80 PY

[Excerpts] A government commission is negotiating with chestnut producers regarding the possibility of lifting the indefinite strike declared in Riberalta, but no satisfactory agreement has been reached. The Radio Panamericana correspondent gives details of the talks directly from that town in Beni Department:

[Begin relay from Riberalta] Radio Panamericana reporting from Riberalta: Yesterday at 2000 the government commission arrived here. It includes Licenciate (Aguirre) as representative of the Finance Ministry and a representative of the agriculture, livestock and peasant affairs ministries. They began by offering a subsidy of 30 pesos per box of chestnuts, but the offer was rejected by the organizations and the people in general. The Finance Ministry representative asked for a postponement until today while he consulted with the finance minister. The people and the organizations announced to the commission members that they will remain here in the town indefinitely unless the problem is solved. [end relay]

Just now a last-minute report is coming in from Riberalta, saying that the government commission has been detained in the town and the commission members declared hostages of the population until the problem is solved.

[Relay from Riberalta] A last-minute report, a last-minute report: After the (?reply) by the Finance Ministry representative [words indistinct] with the under secretary of the ministry who said that the minister stated that a subsidy of only 30 pesos per box of chestnuts can be paid [passage indistinct] for an indefinite term. [end relay]

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES PRESIDENT DENIES COUP RUMORS

PY292005 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 29 Feb 80 PY

[Excerpts] The president of the Chamber of Deputies, Jose Zegarra, has refuted reports that the Congress is involved in actions which endanger the democratic process. This is what he said in response to questions prompted by reports published in inland towns:

[Begin Zegarra recording] Never has any national parliamentarian suggested such an outrage [presumably coup d'etat]. We have chosen Mrs Lidia Gueiler as president until 6 August 1980. In the meantime, we will prepare the framework required to hold the general elections which have been called. [end recording] After discussing several issues, Deputy Zegarra talked about the support which the Bolivian Congress gives to the democratic process.

[Begin Zegarra recording] As far as defending the democratic process is concerned, I am sure that the parliamentarians will unite, and that all of them will support it. We will not, under any circumstances, support any kind of disruption of the Constitution and certainly not a disruption of the democratic process. [end recording]

Zegarra also spoke about the lack of time which restricts the actions of the executive branch toward the implementation of the elections and said that his chamber will take into account the time available before the elections and amendment of the electoral law.

PAZ ESTENSSORO DENIES SUPPORTING MILITARY TAKEOVER

PY291653 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 0200 GMT 29 Feb 80 PY

[Excerpts] Victor Paz Estenssoro, leader of the historical faction of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement has refuted reports that he is in favor of handing the government over to the armed forces to ward off the impending crisis.

[Begin Paz Estenssoro recording] I would like to mention the report which appeared in Santa Cruz today. I would like to firmly refute the political statements I allegedly made. I have made no statements in the last few weeks and, in any case, I could hardly make any statements of the kind the report has attributed to me. Quite the contrary, I believe that the democratic process must go on because despite its flaws it offers the only channel through which the people can express their will and elect the government they believe is appropriate. [end recording]

SANTA CRUZ DEPARTMENT RECALLS CONGRESSMEN

PY042326 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 Mar 80 PY

[Text] The withdrawal of a parliamentary bloc may be dangerous to the democratic process in the country, according to Guillermo Capobianco, deputy for Santa Cruz Department [for the Democratic and Popular Unity Front], when he referred to the request made by the civic committee of that department.

In statements made to Radio Panamericana, Guillermo Capobianco asserted that the Santa Cruz congressmen will follow the request of their committee and thoroughly analyze the situation together with their constituencies. He said:

[Begin recording] We will analyze this request we have received from the civic committee; we will do so in detail, thoroughly and very realistically. We believe that in this case the congressmen should listen to the opinions of the workers, the youth, the professionals, the middle class and the peasants. [end recording]

The Civic Committee for Santa Cruz has decided that the congressmen from that department should withdraw from the Congress, an unusual decision taken in protest of the approval of the San Buena Ventura project [sugar mill project for La Paz Department, strongly opposed by Santa Cruz Department]. Capobianco added:

[Begin Capobianco recording] When we Santa Cruz congressmen received the request to withdraw, we naturally decided to heed this request by the highest organization of the workers of our department. [end recording]

He also gave his opinion on the decision of the civic committee, saying that the democratic process stands above all other things and that the civic representatives and Santa Cruz people should understand this.

[Begin Capobianco recording] This constituted power [presumably the Congress] is one of the basic powers of the country. I believe that this should be well-understood by the Bolivian people and, above all, the Santa Cruz people. I have often said and I repeat now that the democratic process is foremost. I believe that the withdrawal of a whole department is unfavorable to the democratic process and to the Santa Cruz people themselves. [end recording]

ITAMARATY STATEMENT ON BOGOTA EMBASSY TAKEOVER

PY050138 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 4 Mar 80 p 14 PY

[Text of statement released by Itamaraty in Brasilia on 3 March]

[Text] The Brazilian Government has been following with natural attention and concern the situation of the hostages at the Dominican Embassy in Bogota. Through its embassy in Bogota, the Brazilian Government has been in continual contact with the Colombian Government and with diplomatic legations of other countries whose personnel are among the hostages. Brazil appreciates the efforts that are being made and reiterates its confidence in the action of the Colombian Government to the effect of seeking a solution which would not hurt or pose a risk to the hostages.

FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTEDLY CANCELS PLANNED TRIP TO BOGOTA

PY041258 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 4 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Itamaraty's official announcement of Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro's visit to Bogota notwithstanding, official sources have reported that the visit has been canceled. The sources said that the situation of the Brazilian and other ambassadors who are being held hostages in the Dominican Embassy in Bogota has altered the climate of relations between Brazil and Colombia. They added that even if the problem is solved quickly, the date set for the visit, 17 March, is too near to permit preparations to be completed and difficulties smoothed out.

OLYMPIC COMMITTEE VOTES AGAINST BOYCOTT OF MOSCOW GAMES

PY041404 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 4 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Members of the Brazilian Olympic Committee have voted for Brazil's participation in the Olympic games in Moscow. The decision was made unanimously and President Figueiredo will be informed of it personally. Despite U.S. pressure to boycott the Moscow games, Brazilian Olympic officials never stopped working to prepare the teams that will represent Brazil at the games.

VISITING PRC MILITARY DELEGATION INTERESTED IN EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY

Tank Modernization Technology

PY041454 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Feb 80 p 5 PY

[By Roberto Godoy]

[Text] Campinas--The Chinese military delegation which is visiting Brazil may be interested in purchasing technology aimed at modernizing their old Soviet-made T-34 tanks, even before making any decision on purchasing armored vehicles produced by ENGESA [Specialized Engineers Inc.], the company which is sponsoring the group's visit.

According to ENGESA sources, the Chinese have learned about the recovery program that is being carried out by the army to improve the obsolete 23,495-kg M-41 Walker Bulldog light tank built in the United States in the 1950's and still used today by several armed forces. The same kind of operation could be carried out--at a cost not yet revealed--with most of the 11,000 tanks available in the Chinese Army.

The modification carried out by the Sao Paulo Bernardini Industries has resulted in the M-41B project, a complete engineering kit which, according to technicians, allows "at least 10 more years of the model's useful life in the Brazilian tank fleet." The U.S. armored cars have an armor of 38 mm (the T-34 has 60 mm) and are suprisingly strong. The changes increase their positive characteristics. For example, the new diesel engine--Scania DS-14--consumes 1 liter of oil per kilometer compared to 5 liters of special gasoline used by the old Cadillac Lycoming to go the same distance. The sphere of action, originally limited to 110 km, now reaches 600 km or the equivalent of 12 hours of combat.

The conventional turret now gives way to the standard "little fort" of the weapons systems of Brazilian armored vehicles with 90mm cannons and 7.62 coaxial machineguns. In the lateral sections, the empty spaces are used for extra fuel tanks. The modification also includes the electrical systems, the cooling system, the instruments panel and the armor of the engine chamber in a combined double alloy.

In the case of the Chinese T-34, the artillery piece is 85 mm but has slow manual firing. It could be substituted by others of 120 mm and an electrical firing system of 8 rounds per minute. The original range of only 300 km and the electro-electronic components are quite primitive--of the 1940's.

The same technology developed to meet the needs of the Walker-Bulldogs would be easily adaptable with a program of support for the Chinese needs," ENGESA sources stated recalling that the difference in weight (32 tons for the Soviet model and 23 tons for the U.S. models) does not represent an obstacle at all "because the idea is not to reduce or change the volume, but to give maneuverability to the machine as a whole."

According to the Chinese delegation, the transfer of methods and procedures are extremely attractive because they can be implemented by technicians in their own country, in addition to allowing access to a program so far exploited only by Israel, Hungary, the FRG and Brazil, according to the London Strategic Studies Institute--the diversified recycling of long-life military materiel.

May Purchase Armored Cars

FY041652 Paris AFP in Spanish 1810 GMT 3 Mar 80 PY

[Excerpt] Sao Paulo, 3 Mar (AFP)--In today's issue VEJA magazine discloses in a commentary on a visit by a Chinese military delegation that China is studying the possibility of purchasing 2,000 Brazilian armored cars of the Cascavel and Urutu type, mounted on wheels and armed with 90-mm cannon. Without mentioning any sources VEJA reports that the purchasing negotiations will continue for the next 6 months. The amount of the purchase is estimated at $600 million.

So far both the Chinese and Brazilians are maintaining a tight silence on the visit. The Chinese military mission arrived in Brazil 15 days ago. It is made up of about 12 members and it is headed by Zhang Ping, chief of the Chinese Defense Ministry's Equipment Planning Department. VEJA states that China has ordered 2,000 armored cars of the Cascavel and Urutu type.

EMBASSY OCCUPATION CONTINUES; NEGOTIATIONS POSTPONED

PA041834 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1740 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[By Hernando Orozco]

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (LATIN)--The resumption of the negotiations to obtain the release of some 32 persons, including 13 ambassadors, who a guerrilla group is holding hostage in the Dominican Embassy, has been postponed for the next few hours, diplomatic sources in Bogota announced today. "We do not know what happened, but apparently there has been a change in plans," the sources consulted by this agency commented.

The dialog between Colombian Foreign Ministry representatives and 19 April Movement (M-19) guerrillas should have been resumed this morning after Sunday's brief first round of talks.

The presidential palace's spokesmen said they had no information on when the negotiations would be resumed and added that there were no plans to release any further official communiques.

The drama at the Dominican Embassy in Bogota will be 1 week old tomorrow, but there are still no signs of a prompt solution. The group of approxiamtely 30 guerrillas that has occupied the embassy is demanding the release of 311 imprisoned guerrillas and the payment of $50 million.

The military intelligence services today are lacking sufficient evidence to identify the guerrillas inside the embassy.

Asked about newspaper reports mentioning an alleged Colombian doctor, Mary Brigen, the daughter of two English citizens, as the guerrillas' representative in the negotiations, an official source noted: "We have been working on this report, but she has no police records." "Her name is not included in the secret services' list so we cannot say she is really the professional mentioned by the newspapers," the source added.

Meanwhile, the relatives of Ernesto Charry Montealegre, who the newspaper EL TIEMPO identified yesterday as "Commander Uno," have explained that he has been living in Switzerland for the past 2 years and is not connected with the M-19 operation. "Our brother, Ernesto Charry Montealegre, lives in Switzerland and the linking of his name to subversive activities is harmful to him and his family," lawyer Jorge Charry yesterday told the paper.

William Barquero Montiel, a former Nicaraguan ambassador, has fallen for the second time in less than 1 year into the hands of Colombian guerrillas, and he is one of the hostages inside the Dominican Embassy. In May 1979, M-19 guerrillas kidnaped Barquero, who served as his country's ambassador to Bogota until the overthrow of Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza, for 2 hours in an action of solidarity with the Sandinist National Liberation Front. According to EL TIEMPO, Barquero is one of the hostages inside the Dominican Embassy.

For her part, Costa Rican Ambassador to Colombia Maria Elena Chassoul has commented that any attempt to violently seize the Dominican Embassy may unleash a massacre. At a news conference held last night, the diplomat, who was released Friday, said that she is trying "to make people the world over realize how well prepared these people are and that if anybody tries to seize that building by force there will be a big massacre."

Dialog May Continue

PA042249 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2230 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (LATIN)--According to diplomatic sources, the second round of negotiations for the release of the Dominican Embassy hostages, originally slated for today, has been postponed probably until tomorrow.

The second dialog between Foreign Ministry representatives and the guerrillas who last Wednesday seized the embassy had been originally slated for 0900 local time (1400 GMT) today.

Diplomatic sources later announced the talks would be held in the afternoon, but did not explain why. There is evidence now that in view of the lateness of the hour and the fact that night has almost fallen, contacts will probably be resumed tomorrow.

Reportedly To Resume 1600 GMT

PA050332 Paris AFP in Spanish 0308 GMT 5 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (AFP)--Defense Minister Luis Carlos Camacho, in an interview with the RCN radio network, said that talks between the government and terrorists occupying the Dominican Embassy here will be renewed tomorrow. The report, however, was not confirmed by the Press Secretariat at the presidential palace, which from the beginning of the crisis has been handling all information.

An official of the Press Secretariat told AFP that it was possible that the radio network has obtained the information directly from the minister because, until now, the presidential palace has not issued communique on the matter. It is possible that a communique will be issued early on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, it was unofficially reported that talks will be renewed at 1600 GMT on 5 March in the van used for the first contact on Sunday. It was said that the same delegates would participate for the government: Camilo Jimenez and Ramiro Zambrano, high Foreign Ministry officials.

Occupation Rumored To End 19 April

PA041354 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1252 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (EFE)--The dramatic Dominican Embassy occupation in Bogota will end on 19 April, founding anniversary of the 19 April Movement (M-19), if the Colombian Government accedes to the demands and the hostages [as received] are released, it was reported here today.

A confidential source from the military intelligence service told EFE that one of the M-19 goals in this occupation was to draw international attention to the advance in the struggle for the defense of human rights and political prisoners in this country. The source said this drama will climax with the guerrilla commando unit's exit along with their hostages after seeing the international impact that the terrorist action has had on the public and the governments of the various nations in the hemisphere.

However, the position in which the M-19 put the Colombian Government in 1976 when President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen did not meet their demands and the guerrillas decided to kill labor leader Jose Raquel Mercado, who had been in captivity for more than 46 days in a "people's prison," was remembered today.

Reliable sources reported today that the firm stand of President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala's administration "softened" the guerrillas during the initial conversations. It was precisely during one of those talks that agreement was reached to "wait" until after the upcoming municipal elections. This was one of the first positive actions taken by the Colombian Government to cope with the difficult problem posed by the M-19's occupation of the Dominican Embassy. The government is trying to handle the matter with the utmost caution and trying to adopt an overall strategy to avoid any contingency that might end in tragedy.

Dominican Inside Embassy 'Not a Guerrilla'

PA042005 Paris AFP in Spanish 1508 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (AFP)--The Dominican community here explained that their compatriot, Libio Tiburcio Sandino, is not a member of the 19 April Movement [M-19] but a hostage of the group that occupied the Dominican Embassy last Wednesday.

Press reports in Bogota, which were based on information from Santo Domingo, had indicated that Sandino, born in Hatomayor in 1945, had been involved in terrorist activities and that he was even deported from Mexico for being a guerrilla. The press noted that Sandino's alleged background as a terrorist had caused his being reported on the side of the M-19 guerrillas who have been occupying the Dominican Embassy since last Wednesday and holding some 20 diplomats hostage.

Josefa Rodriguez Garcia, a Dominican woman who is studying in Bogota, said: "I am a very close friend of Libio and I am sure of his innocence. I deny this false accusation against him because Libio works as the embassy secretary." Rodriguez Garcia, who said she was speaking on behalf of the Dominican community in Bogota, affirmed that "Libio is not a guerrilla; he is a hostage."

Reports from Santo Domingo indicated that Sandino came to Bogota after being deported from Mexico and got a job at the Dominican Embassy, from which he was fired in 1976. Sandino's true status has not been clarified so far. The only thing known is that he is inside the embassy.

Negotiators Deny Saluting M-19 Flag

PA041454 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala have discussed the situation of the hostages at the Dominican Embassy over the telephone.

Meanwhile, the government negotiators have denied they paid homage to the flag of the guerrilla group which occupied the diplomatic mission. In a communique issued from Narino Palace by Camilo Jimenez Villalba and Ramiro Zambrano Cardenas, the two negotiators denied press reports saying that they had allegedly paid homage to the 19 April Movement [M-19] flag. They said they wanted to explain that they were not forced to do this, adding that such reports are unbelievable because nobody could have forced them to do that.

Doctor Treats Captive Peruvian

PA041444 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0515 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (LATIN)--Red Cross President Guillermo Rueda Montana has reported that Peruvian Consul Alfredo Tejada, who is among the hostages at the Dominican Embassy, was seen by a doctor for 30 minutes today inside the embassy. "The consul underwent knee surgery 15 days ago and, since the knee was swelling today, the presence of a doctor was required," Rueda Montana said. The doctor, identified only by the last name of Botero, took bandages to the embassy and apparently put the consul's knee in a cast. The arrangements for the doctor's visit to the Dominican Embassy were made through the Red Cross. A Red Cross van also took food and personal items from the embassies and the hostages' relatives to the diplomatic mission.

Liaison Committee Reports Activities

PA041426 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0606 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[By George Rodriguez Oteiza]

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (LATIN)--A liaison committee composed of representatives of the countries affected by the occupation of the Dominican Embassy here and the government last night informed the diplomatic corps of its activities.

The information compiled by the diplomatic conclave was released by Spanish Ambassador Emilio Martin Martin who noted during a news conference that "any offensive action against the embassy must be prevented at all costs." He added that such an act would provoke "a tragedy of unpredictable consequences."

As to the possibility of such action, the diplomat pointed out that personally "I do not believe it is likely." "We have gone through a period of serious danger here, notably the 3-hour shooting at the time of the embassy occupation. Since then, and this is my opinion as ambassador and as an individual, the government has been handling the difficult situation with extraordinary prudence," he added. "I have no doubt that before making any more, the government will consider all possible consequences, and the government agrees with all of us that in reaching a settlement the welfare of the hostages must be kept in mind," he said after the diplomatic meeting.

As to the progress of the negotiations started Sunday, he said "these things cannot be done quickly." He voiced his agreement with the wish of Commander Uno, head of the guerrillas occupying the embassy, expressed recently to this correspondent, that the dialog between the two parties must be "loyal, rapid and [word indistinct]."

He said, however, that "looking at it logically, the difficulties in carrying out this dialog [words indistinct]." "I personally fervently wish that this could be quickly settled, but I do not believe it will be concluded quickly," he noted. "It is important that there is a dialog and that it has already started. What happened yesterday is very important," Martin declared. "The dialog opened without incident and on absolutely correct terms," he added. "It is essential to maintain the dialog in these cases," the diplomat pointed out, referring to recent occupations of embassies in other countries.

Referring to the present status of the negotiations, which started Sunday in front of the embassy occupied by the M-19 guerrillas, the diplomat noted that "the guerrillas have reiterated the demands we already know." He added that the Colombian Government "has taken note and has said--and this must not be forgotten--that its hopes are twofold, that the negotiations be conducted with due respect for the Constitution and the laws...and that its primary wish is that the lives of the hostages be respected."

'Cautious' Diplomatic Statements Urged

PA041753 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1715 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (EFE)--The Colombian Government today asked the diplomatic corps accredited in Colombia to be careful in their statements to the press in order not to obstruct the negotiations with the M-19 guerrillas, who for 7 days have been holding 14 ambassadors and 34 other persons hostage.

The request was made at the two meetings held by the foreign diplomats, the first at the Apostolic Nunciature last week and the second yesterday afternoon at which the diplomatic corps analyzed the situation of their captive colleagues. After the first meeting the ambassadors delivered a communque to the Colombian Government expressing their concern for the fate of their colleagues and requesting a prompt solution to the problem.

Observers feel that this and other statements issued by the diplomats in reply to questions from reporters have not pleased the government of President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala. The information on the status of the negotiations between the guerrillas and the government has been restricted to only a few ranking government officials who are directly handling the case.

It is extremely difficult for reporters to obtain information and this has triggered all sorts of conjectures and speculation, which have been described by the government as an "alarmist" way of handling the situation.

Newsmen Get Special Credentials

PA041710 Paris AFP in Spanish 1503 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (AFP)--Some 250 Colombian and foreign newsmen who have been covering the occupation of the Dominican Embassy by the 19 April Movement (M-19) since last Wednesday have received press credentials from the security corps. In this manner, the authorities will be able to control the presence of hundreds of curious onlookers who have placed themselves near the occupied embassy.

Newsmen have established a huge camp some 70 meters from the Dominican Embassy, where the M-19 has been holding some 20 diplomats hostage since last Wednesday. Perhaps the major cause of discomfort for the newsmen has been the changing weather. While in the daytime they are subjected to high temperatures and even rain, at night it becomes unbearably cold and they are forced to drink liquor, one of them said.

Although there have been no problems, police last night were obliged to warn the reporters that those who continue drinking will be removed from the scene. More than 500 bottles of liquor were found at the "newsmen's camp" today. According to the consumers, "it helps us to withstand the cold."

M-19 Threatens Local Newsmen

PA042115 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2019 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[By German Acero Espinosa]

[Excerpt] Bogota, 4 Mar (EFE)--The guerrillas of the 19 April Movement (M-19) who are occupying the Dominican Embassy have issued harsh threats against Colombian newsmen. Meanwhile, urban guerrilla groups have recommended their struggle in various areas of the country, reliable sources have reported here.

Reporters of the newspaper LA REPUBLICA of Bogota on Monday received harsh threats from the M-19, which pressured them to undertake a "more revolutionary journalism" in their reports on the occupation of the embassy. The newsmen have asked for army intelligence service protection after they received telephone calls in which an anonymous voice threatened and pressured them to stop their journalism in support of the Colombian Government. The local newsmen who asked not to be identified indicated that on Monday they received two telephone calls with a 3-minute recording which threatened them and their families. On Monday, pro-Chinese and Castroite guerrilla groups called local radio stations to issue a recording with communiques that announced the beginning of a struggle in support of the occupation of the Dominican Embassy.

A guerrilla group called "Eduardo Zambrano," of the "Pedro Leon Arboleda" group warned that if the military troops stayed near the embassy it would begin "suicide operations."

PCC Denies Involvement in Occupation

PA041249 Paris AFP in Spanish 2200 GMT 3 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 3 Mar (AFP)--The Communist Party of Colombia (PCC), through its Central Committee, denied here today having any connection with the occupation of the Dominican Embassy by leftist guerrillas who are keeping several foreign diplomats hostage. The PCC demanded a bloodless solution to the crisis and stressed that actions such as the occupation of the diplomatic mission are not within their methods of struggle. According to the PCC, one way of solving the delicate situation may be to offer safe-conducts to the guerrillas.

MILITARY WARNS SUBVERSIVES AGAINST ANTIDEMOCRATIC ACTIONS

PA050346 Paris AFP in Spanish 0325 GMT 5 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (AFP)--The military forces today strongly warned the guerrilla organizations that they will not tolerate the advancement of subversion in Colombia under any circumstances.

An editorial published today in the newspaper FUERZAS ARMADAS, seems to have been the first military pronouncement on the taking of hostages at the Dominican Embassy by the 19 April Movement. The editorial stresses that the military will respect the democratic institutions since these were established by the people, and that they will be loyal to the oath they took to defend the nation. Further, they underscore that the subversive movements will never be able to achieve their objective of overthrowing the democratic system and juridial order. To conclude, the editorial reiterates the armed forces' full and categorical support for President Julio Cesar Turbay's regime.

COURT-MARTIAL OF M-19 MEMBERS RESUMED

PA051305 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0033 GMT 5 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (EFE)--The court-martial of 218 alleged guerrillas of the 19 April Movement [M-19] continued today without any changes despite the occupation of the Dominican Embassy by members of that organization.

This court-martial, considered the most important of the guerrillas in Latin America, is being held in the chapel of "La Picota" Penitentiary in Bogota. It began in November 1979. It is precisely the release of these defendants that is one of the demands of the M-19 guerrilla group that occupied the Dominican Embassy on 27 February and has been holding 38 persons hostage, including 14 ambassadors, since then.

After the embassy occupation, it was originally reported in Bogota that the court-martial in question had been suspended but this information was false.

EPL, ELN ATTACK CONSERVATIVE PARTY OFFICE

PA041735 Paris AFP in Spanish 1714 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (AFP)--A joint guerrilla commando group, with pro-Chinese and Castroite leanings, today attacked the headquarters of a Conservative Party Directorate, destroying the ballots for Sunday's municipal elections and expressing support for the occupation of the Dominican Embassy. After shouting revolutionary slogans and painting the walls with slogans, the guerrillas fled in a vehicle.

It has been reported that the group belonged to the Popular Liberation Army (EPL) and the National Liberation Army (ELN). Through anonymous telephone calls yesterday to the Radio Cadena Nacional station, the EPL announced the beginning of terrorist actions in support of the 19 April Movement (M-19) guerrillas who have been occupying the Dominican Embassy since last Wednesday and who are holding several diplomats hostage.

The ballots which were destroyed by the guerrillas were ready for Sunday's elections of councilmen and assemblymen in Colombia.

POLICE RAID HIDEOUT OF WORKERS SELF-DEFENSE MOVEMENT

PA031958 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 3 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--Police intelligence forces today dealt a third [as heard] blow to terrorist organizations by raiding a house of the Workers Self-Defense Movement [MAO], arresting several of its members and seizing a huge arsenal, much subversive propaganda and a sinister plan for subversive activities to be conducted in the capital. The raid was carried out early this morning in Soacha Municipality, south of Bogota, after a lengthy investigation.

The F-2 broke into the MAO hideout as the subversives were examining plans [words indistinct] several banks. In the hideout of the MAO, the movement which claimed credit for killing former Minister Rafael Pardo Buelvas, there were carbines, rifles, revolvers, three home-made bombs, dynamite sticks, 18 meters of slow-reaction fuse, police and military uniforms, diagrams of banks to be attacked and large quantities of ammunition. During the raid in La Despensa neighborhood of Soacha, several people whose names were not given were arrested. The prisoners were taken to the Military Institute's Brigade.

MOPOCO LEADERS DENIED ENTRY TO ATTEND ACCORD MEETING

Expectation of 1 Mar Return

PY271527 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 27 Feb 80 p 11 PY

[Excerpt] Waldino Ramon Lovera, Mario Mallorquin and Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca, members of the Colorado Popular Movement (MOPOCO), will arrive on 1 March to attend a meeting of the National Accord to commemorate the death of Marshal Francisco Solano Lopez. The heads of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, the Febrerista Revolutionary Party and the Christian Democratic Party, which are also members of the National Accord, will also attend. Juan Ramon Chavez, president of the Colorado Party Executive Board, was asked about the possibility that the MOPOCO politicians might not be able to enter the country, as happened on a previous occasion. Chavez said that "these people will be able to enter the country without any problems as long, of course, as they do not try to engage in acts in violation of current laws. They can enter the country and also meet with the National Accord. In this way they will be able to do something for the country."

Return Seen as Encouraging

PY271528 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 27 Feb 80 p 11 PY

[Excerpt] The decision to allow the return of the main leaders of the Colorado Popular Movement (MOPOCO) has been interpreted by the National Accord as progress toward the democratization of the country and a possibility of reaching political dialog among representatives of all sectors.

Carlos Caballero Gatti, president of the National Accord Board of Coordinators, said the decision is encouraging "because it means we are on the path to civilized political activity and opens the doors to the possibility of dialog with all sectors."

"For me this is great news, a positive decision, because it represents progress in the democratization of the country," the president of the Febrerista Revolutionary Party said and reiterated that now the path which must be followed for the democratization of the country is clean elections which are no longer a farce.

Domingo Laino, president of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, said that this is a great achievement of the Paraguayan people "and of the democratic friends of other countries who have done something so Paraguay will no longer continue under dictatorship." He added: "The fact of returning to a country is normal in countries where there is no dictatorship."

Colorado Party Communique

PY272149 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 28 Feb 80 p 1 PY

[Communique dated 27 February 1980, released in Asuncion by the Secretariat of the Colorado Party Executive Board]

[Text] The Secretariat of the Republican National Association [Colorado Party] Executive Board, in view of the publication of an alleged remark by party President Juan Ramon Chavez that "the representatives of the Colorado Popular Movement (MOPOCO) will be able to enter the country without any problems," feels it its duty to explain that these remarks have been maliciously distorted with the idea of confusing public opinion.

On the contrary, the party president, in a telephone interview with a reporter, said that the party Executive Board would not discuss the problem of people who have been expelled, and that only by agreeing to respect the authority of the Executive Board without any intent to alter the peace and order of the nation can MOPOCO members do something for the country. In answer to the reporter's question on whether MOPOCO members could enter the country now, the party president said that "this is not the jurisdiction of the party Executive Board but of the appropriate officials."

Government Refuses Entry

PY292007 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 29 Feb 80 p 11 PY

[Excerpt] "The national government will not allow the members of the Colorado Popular Movement (MOPOCO) to enter the country because they intend to come to support an accord which has no other objective than to boycott the government," Miguel Angel Bestard, under secretary of the Interior Ministry, said to this newspaper yesterday.

Asked about the government's attitude in view of the announcement that the main MOPOCO leaders are coming, he said: "I can definitely assure you that the government will not allow the MOPOCO leaders to enter the country."

Asked about the reasons for this decision, Bestard said that "a group of people who come to support an accord which has no other objective than to boycott the government cannot be allowed to enter."

He added: "When these people have asked individually to enter the country for family reasons on other occasions, they have met no obstacles; but now, coming as a group and with a political objective--the government believes that this cannot be permitted. This is the reason they will not be allowed to come in."

He also said that they will not be allowed to get off the airplane and added: "Of course, I do not believe they will come."

PDC Criticism of Decision

PY292010 Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 29 Feb 80 p 2 PY

[Text] Anibal Recalde Sosa, president of the Christian Democratic Party (PDC), criticized the government's attitude when he was told that Miguel Angel Bestard, under secretary of the Interior Ministry, said that the leaders of the Colorado Popular Movement (MOPOCO) will not be allowed to enter the country on 1 March.

He said: "This attitude is in accordance with the government practice of curtailing the right of people to live in their country. Any citizen of the world has the legitimate right to live in his country and now, with an attitude that does not surprise us, the government refuses entrance to a few citizens, members of MOPOCO."

He added: "This dictatorial decision makes a great jail out of our country; those of us who live in it cannot leave, and those who are outside of it cannot enter. The dictatorship only aims to destroy the unity of the Paraguayan people. When the Paraguayan people are ready to unite, government representatives come out to block this effort--and they are used to boasting about the unity felt by our people. They are degrading concepts against the National Accord because they know that our fellow countrymen have high hopes for it. They know that Paraguayans want our country to become a land of freedom and no longer be a land of vampires that suck out its wealth and values."

COLUMNIST DISCUSSES U.S. TOLL SHARE, 'OVERDUE DEBT'

PA041717 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 4 Mar 80 p 4-A PA

[Harmodio Icaza article: "The Truth About the 24 Million"]

[Text] It has recently been published that the United States is refusing to pay Panama the sum accrued from the tolls paid by the ships that have crossed the canal since 1 October. This is basically true they are making payment of that debt conditional to Panama's payment of a fee that we do not agree we owe and payment of which disappeared with the signing of the treaties.

In order to understand the problem, one must analyze the two accounts separately.

What the United States Owes Panama

Pursuant to the Torrijos-Carter treaty, Panama should receive 30 cents per net ton of each ship transiting the canal and paying a toll for the service. According to the treaty, payment will be made annually. Thus, it would seem Panama has no reason to demand monthly or quarterly payments but must wait until the end of the year to collect.

However, money has a certain value and it is no secret that the dollar has undergone some very significant devaluations. Therefore 30 cents charged today will not be the same 30 cents by 31 December 1980. Panama is therefore entitled to ask that each time the United States collects a toll, it deposit Panama's share in a bank selected by Panama in a 1-year term account so it will draw interest belonging to Panama as compensation for the drop in the purchasing power of the dollar. Panama should receive this when the United States pays the entire amount accrued during the year.

The United States should be depositing that money now as indicated and Panama has no reason to give to that northern nation the interest on the money accrued during the year from its share of the rolls. In turn, the United States has no right to earn interest from money that does not belong to it. In fact, in view of this the United States has suggested making monthly payments of the accrued sum to Panama. A similar suggestion has been made concerning the fixed $10 million annuity payable from the daily canal income and concerning the additional $10 million that it has to reimburse us for Panama's daily expenditure fom providing public utility services in the housing areas and for the operation of the canal.

Panama's Overdue Debt

The treaty put to rest a number of claims by both Panama and the United States resulting from the management, operation, maintenance and protection of the canal. Many of the Panamanian claims were fair, such as those concerning the unauthorized use of airspace, the unauthorized establishment of military bases, the School of the Americas, the operation of business firms authorized by the United States in open violation of the 1936 treaty, the unauthorized use of the natural resources in the subsoil and the unauthorized use of water.

The United States in turn presented a bill objected to by Panama for supplying drinking water, servicing the leper colony and other minor charges. Panama rightfully contended that it did not have to pay for its own water and if anybody had to pay for the water it was the United States. The United States created the leper colony to "protect" its own American community which could not put up with the presence of the lepers in the city.

The treaty does not mention these bills , but this is not an omission. The claims for the bills were simply put to rest with the new treaty.

Otherwise, some reference to it would have been made in the treaty as some other things of minor importance were mentioned, such as the burial ground in Mount Hope.

However, there is more. When Panama tried to collect taxes owed by the private firms which the United States in open violation of the 1936 treaty had authorized to operate in the former canal zone, the United States contended that Panama's claims had been put to rest because they were derived from actions taken by the former canal company and the new treaty had brought about a "clean slate."

Conclusion

In view of all this,

1. Panama should demand that all the moneys accrued from its toll share be put in a 1-year deposit.

2. Panama should refuse to pay the so-called "overdue debt."

ROYOS ASKS FOR STRICT FULFILLMENT OF PRESS LAW

PA050026 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 4 Mar 80 p 1 PA

[Government and Justice Minister Ricardo Rodriguez' note to ministers and directors of autonomous institutions]

[Text] Panama, 25 February 1980

Mr Minister:

Today we received a note from the Journalists Union of Panama, a copy of which I am enclosing. The document in question advises his excellency the president of the republic of the possible violation of various articles of Law No. 67 of 1978, which regulates the activities of private broadcasters.

In connection with this document, it is the wish of the president of the republic that the provisions of this law be fully and strictly fulfilled, that any errors made be corrected and that the violation of this law be avoided in all cases.

Sincerely yours,

[Signed] Ricardo A. Rodriguez, government and justice minister.

RADIO COMMENTATORS HOLD ANTIGOVERNMENT RALLY

PA050320 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0015 GMT 5 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Panama City, 4 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Radio Commentators Union of Panama this afternoon began the first of a series of rallies against the government's decision to indefinitely cancel the licenses of four of the union members.

The radio commentators, who are opposed to President Aristides Royo's regime, set up their operations center in Radio Mia, a local radio station, where they gathered this afternoon with a group of supporters, among them two teachers association leaders.

Through the Government and Justice Ministry, the government yesterday canceled the radio commentator licenses of Julio Ortega, Milciades Ortiz, Lucho Pimentel and Miguel Bernal, who run four radio commentary programs which are characterized by their opposition to President Royo's administration.

The official decree accuses the radio commentators of distorting the truth in order to undermine public order, violate social peace and openly slander honest citizens, particularly the president of the republic.

The Panamenista, Liberal and Christian Democratic parties have protested the government's decision and have expressed their full support for the persons affected by this measure.

This afternoon at Radio Mia, two outstanding leaders of the Elementary and High School Teachers Association gave their support to the radio commentators while strongly criticizing the government. These rallies, it was announced, will continue at the same place until Friday, when a protest demonstration which will be called "the empty pots" will be carried out against the increase in price of important items.

Request Popular Support

PA041535 Panama City Radio Hogar in Spanish 2318 GMT 3 Mar 80 PA

[Communique issued by the Radio Commentators Union on 3 March in Panama City]

[Excerpt] On 3 March 1980 the government, through the Government and Justice Ministry, decreed the definite cancellation of four radio commentary programs, in an open assault on the freedom of expression in our country. The government decision is another attack on the people and seeks to silence the voices which are analyzing and criticizing the serious situation into which the country has plunged. At all times during our radio commentaries we have assumed a clear position in defense of the freedom of expression which the Panamanian nation must enjoy without exception so opinions can be broadcast.

By suspending four radio commentary programs the government has attacked the Panamanian people and one of their fundamental democratic freedoms. In the face of such acts, which are arbitrary, immoral, antidemocratic and antipopular, the radio commentators are appealing to the Panamanian people to not allow the freedom of expression and opinion to be suspended and to join the protest against this action by the government which is trying to create even more division in the Panamanian family in order to establish a regime of permanent repression.

Panamanian people, do not allow your rights to be trampled; do not allow yourselves to be attacked and to be ridiculed. We ask you to join us in our protest against the situation created by the government's action. We invite you to join us tomorrow at 1700 in a meeting at the bar association's headquarters.

COSTA RICA

SOVIET EMBASSY DENIES INTERFERENCE IN CENTRAL AMERICA

PA040439 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0130 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Jose, 4 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Valeriy Smolin, Soviet Embassy press attache in San Jose, denied that his government has participated in domestic problems that have affected Central America.

Smolin explained that he was not referring to a statement by Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo, who said in an exclusive interview with ACAN-EFE that Moscow had assumed "an aggressive political attitude" in the isthmus.

The Soviet diplomat said the embassy cannot comment on what the president said, but in regard to other reports on the matter he said that "neither the embassy nor Russia has ever interfered in Panama, El Salvador or Guatemala." He also said that "as far as Costa Rica is concerned, the Soviet Union has never interfered in its domestic affairs."

Smolin regretted that the Costa Rican press gives its readers only reports from Western news agencies, "which always distort facts. Unfortunately the Costa Rican press does not publish reports by the Soviet news agency TASS or others, such as from Afghanistan, but it bases its reports on what is said by the West, which is concerned only with its own interests."

Carazo's accusation of intervention in Central America came several months after his regime expelled two Soviet diplomats from San Jose, accusing them of interfering in the country's internal affairs.

EL SALVADOR

FPL THREATENS TO EXECUTE SOUTH AFRICAN DIPLOMAT DUNN

PA050002 Paris AFP in Spanish 2056 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Mar (AFP)--The Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces (FPL) will execute South African diplomat Archibald Dunn if their demands are not met within a short time, two members of this Salvadoran revolutionary organization told AFP here.

The FPL, which has been holding the former South African ambassador to El Salvador hostage since 28 November 1979, denied that it has been in touch with the South African Government to negotiate Dunn's freedom. However, it did admit that negotiations with the diplomat's family are in progress.

So far, none of the FPL's demands have been met, the leaders of the clandestine organization indicated, referring to their original demand to have an FPL manifesto published in some 110 countries. The organization is maintaining its demands, they added, but it is considering the possibility of accepting a ransom as an alternative. They did not disclose the amount being negotiated.

Dunn's family has asked for more time and it has been granted, although the FPL realizes that there is not much interest, especially on the part of the South African Government, to solve the case, the leaders pointed out. Without going into details regarding the state of the negotiations, the guerrillas admitted the existence of some kind of contact with Dunn's family.

We are not asking for a ransom, they said, but it could be an alternative to the manifesto publication, even if a final agreement has not been reached. However, this situation cannot go on forever, and although there is not a definite deadline, we will have to set one if we do not see a real interest in meeting the organization's demands. The FPL leaders indicated that they will set a deadline, after which Dunn will be executed.

They said that the diplomat is in perfect health, that he has been well cared for, and that he has no medical or emotional problems.

The FPL revealed that it has obtained information from Dunn which will only be disclosed after the case has been closed.

The guerrillas are expecting reports on the activities of the diplomat which, they said, will be supplied by the South African Revolutionary Liberation Front (FLS), with which FPL leaders are in contact. The FLS recently sent a letter asking the FPL to hold the former ambassador, against whom they claim to have several accusations.

JUNTA MEMBER DADA HIREZI RESIGNS 4 MAR

PA050405 Paris AFP in Spanish 0357 GMT 5 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Mar (AFP)--Hector Dada Hirezi, one of the two Christian Democratic members in the Salvadoran Government junta, resigned tonight, it has been announced at his party's headquarters.

TERRORIST ACTIVITIES AGAINST GOVERNMENT CONTINUE UNABATED

3 Mar Events

PA041704 Paris AFP in Spanish 1622 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Mar (AFP)--Increased tension gripped this capital today where shooting and explosions lasted throughout Monday night, causing at least 10 dead, while a tremor shocked the area.

The disturbances erupted when commandos of the Peoples Revolutionary Army (ERP) armed with automatics and, according to information, including 100-mm cannons, attacked the National Guard's general headquarters north of San Salvador.

According to an official communique, the guardsmen repelled the attack, which was intended only to "gain publicity and increase tension among the troops, who suffered no casualties."

Shortly after, however, the ERP occupied a sector on the outskirts of Ciudad Delgado and heavy shooting broke out near the university where a military patrol ran into an attack by other leftwing commandos. It was in that sector that the 10 bodies were discovered today.

Elsewhere, the National Guard last night found strong explosives in various points of the city and proceeded to defuse them.

On top of all this, a tremor of 4 degrees intensity in the Mercali scale of 12 shook San Salvador and vicinity around 0035 (0635 GMT), increasing the general alarm and confusion. The tremor caused neither casualties nor great damage.

15 Killed in ERP Attacks

PA041604 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1549 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--At least 15 civilians died as consequence of the attacks of activists of the clandestine Marxist Revolutionary Peoples Army last night and during the dawn hours of today, Tuesday, against the headquarters of the National Guard and the Treasury Police in San Salvador.

Unofficial sources told ACAN-EFE this morning that most of the casualties were guerrillas in addition to two persons who were passing in front of the attacked garrisons. They added that several of the attackers took refuge in the University of El Salvador while others fled in the direction of the Honduran border, to the north of Salvador.

There has been no report of casualties among the military.

Armed Forces Issues Communique

PA042204 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1001 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Official armed forces communique on events of 3 and 4 March, read by Armed Forces Press Committee spokesman--recorded]

[Text] The Salvadoran Armed Forces informs the Salvadoran people that, on the night of 3 March, subversive groups harassed the military post at the National Guard central garrison. In their attack the terrorists used weapons of various calibers. The attack was repelled by sentries at the military garrison.

The terrorists exploded bombs near the National Guard garrison as well as in other parts of the capital.

The attack served well-defined objectives which the people should know:

1. To harass the military forces in order to maintain a state of uneasiness. However, they have not been successful because of the discipline of our soldiers.

2. To cause casualties in their own ranks so that they can later appear as martyrs of the alleged prolonged peoples war.

3. To project a propaganda image on the national and international level of their heroic actions.

During the attack on the garrison [words indistinct] security, the armed forces patrolled the various parts of the city and found several bombs placed at strategic places so their explosions would give the impression of a large-scale attack. Armed forces personnel immediately defused the bombs and later exploded them. These were the explosions heard during the early morning today in San Salvador.

It was also reported that shots were fired from the national university at military patrols, which returned the fire with as yet unknown results.

The armed forces reasserts its intention to maintain law and order no matter what the sacrifice to help the majority of the Salvadoran people who repudiate the provocations of a small group of extremists.

San Salvador, 4 March 1980.

SEVERAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS NEAR CAPITAL ATTACKED

PA041916 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpt] According to several radio stations, an official armed forces bulletin has been released reporting on two clashes that occurred when the Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces ambushed two military convoys in the towns of Menguera and Carrizal, 191 km northwest and 93 km north of the capital, respectively.

Here is William Grisby with additional information: [Begin recording] The NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY reports: We have just contacted El Salvador and have been told that heavy fighting took place yesterday afternoon in San Salvador. We have been told that the National Police headquarters in the communities of Mejicanos, Soyapango, Ciudad Delgado and San Marco, all of them near San Salvador, were simultaneously attacked yesterday at about 2230, with 105mm cannons and weapons of various calibers.

Some 50 policemen were reportedly killed and the attackers sustained at least 1 casualty. The Revolutionary Peoples Army has claimed credit for the attacks. They apparently released a communique last night on the meaning of the operation carried out.

According to our sources, the attacks were very violent and shooting could be heard throughout the city. At a given moment the National Police reportedly panicked.

The Salvadoran Army has not yet released any official communique, but one is expected at any moment.

We have also been told that the national Red Cross has declared itself in a state of national emergency and that the Presidente Hyatt Hotel will be turned into an emergency hospital. This hotel, one of the most luxurious in the days when tourism flourished in El Salvador, is now closed.

Schools have also been declared emergency areas and teachers are staging a general strike to protest the death of two teachers this week. They will not go back to work until 13 March. [end recording]

12 UNIDENTIFIED BODIES FOUND; LINKED TO FIGHTING

PA042315 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1045 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Twelve bodies have been found at kilometer 29 of the north main road. According to reports four of the dead were university students who were blindfolded and bound hand and foot. The bodies have not yet been identified, but it is presumed that they are victims of the fighting which took place last night when the National Guard general garrison was attacked.

FPL TERRORISTS ATTACK PERULAPIA MUNICIPAL BUILDING

PA050151 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] The outlawed Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces [FPL] attacked the Perulapia municipal building by throwing incendiary bombs and machinegunning it. Reports say that the courtroom located in the same building was also attacked by terrorists. No casualties were reported in the attack.

BPR DENOUNCES ARREST OF PROMINENT STUDENT LEADER

PA040238 San Salvador EL INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish 3 Mar 80 pp 1, 16 PA

[Text] Oscar Edmundo Bonilla, president of the General Association of University Students (AGEUS), was arrested 2 days ago at noon near Centenario Park by National Guardsmen in civilian clothing, EL INDEPENDIENTE was told by the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc (BPR).

The student leader was arrested in the presence of many witnesses in front of the Richard clothing store, into which he was taken and then removed in a Dodge vehicle, license plate no 40-113, to be taken to the National Guard headquarters.

Several plainsclothes guardsmen grabbed Bonilla and took him to an unknown destination, according to persons who were present.

The BPR is demanding respect for Bonilla's physical and moral wellbeing and is calling for his immediate release. The BPR holds the government junta and the leadership of the Christian Democratic Party responsible for any harm that might come to the AGEUS president.

The BPR calls on all democratic and popular organizations and all the Salvadoran people to denounce these attacks on student leaders.

UDN SPOKESMAN SAYS LEFTIST LEADER CASTELLANOS ARRESTED

PA021937 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0045 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--A spokesman of the Nationalist Democratic Union Party (UDN) charged here today that leftist leader Roberto Castellanos and his wife Arette, a Danish citizen, were captured on Sunday by security units in San Salvador.

According to the spokesman, Castellanos is secretary of the Propaganda Committee of the UDN, considered to be the front for the masses of the illegal Communist Party of El Salvador.

The UDN is a member of the Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses recently created in El Salvador.

RIGHTIST COUP RUMORS CONTINUE 4 MAR

PA042106 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2045 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 4 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Rumors again circulated today about the possibility that a rightist coup might be staged in the next few hours by sectors opposed to the structural changes promoted by the Revolutionary Government Junta in accordance with the armed forces proclamation released on 15 October 1979.

There has been no official reaction to this rumor, which has begun circulating precisely now that the Revolutionary Government Junta is about to implement an agrarian reform plan.

Many people who had social commitments for this afternoon were warned by friends to stay out of the streets because the situation might worsen. However, there is heavy traffic and a large number of pedestrians are in San Salvador's streets.

On Monday night and at dawn today there were armed clahses between Marxist activists and security forces. Two of the security forces' central garrisons were attacked by the clandestine Revolutionary Peoples Army (ERP) with an unofficial toll of 15 dead civilians. This has led to fears about large-scale actions by the three clandestine groups which are using violence to seize power and establish a Marxist-Leninist regime.

The armed forces have said they will maintain order within the legal framework.

The news media recently said the leftists were preparing a coup to seize political power. This rumor emerged after the Christian Democratic Party, which cooperates with the current government, and the leftist United Popular Action Front (FAPU) denounced the existence of a possible rightwing coup.

The United States warned a few days ago that it will not support any act of that nature which prevents the changes the current junta is seeking. The United States also granted a $50 million loan to El Salvador for the development of various programs to benefit the country's masses.

AFP: HIGH GOVERNMENT SOURCES SAY COUP ATTEMPT UNLIKELY

PA041259 Paris AFP in Spanish 1906 GMT 3 Mar 80 PA

[By Guillermo Penate]

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Mar (AFP)--The possibility of another attempted coup d'etat in El Salvador has been discounted, said sources close to high government officials today. The primary reason adduced for discounting the overthrow of the present government junta is the unity of the young militarymen, who at a certain point refused to support the attempt which occurred last week.

Apparently at the beginning of last week very specific plans to overthrow the present government junta were suspended at the last minute. The plans were well coordinated and several acts of violence had been committed to support it, according to the sources. The violent evacuation of the Christian Democratic headquarters, which caused four deaths, and the murder of Mario Zamora Rivas, a leader of the same party who was machinegunned in his home, are among such acts cited to create a propitious atmosphere for a coup.

The sources also emphasized how a general strike, organized by the National Association of Private Enterprise [ANEP] for the beginning of last week coincided with the conspiracy plans.

The violent evacuation of the Christian Democratic headquarters was an attempt to pressure the party into withdrawing from the government junta "and thereby demonstrate the ineffectiveness of a centrist government to make room for us to govern," some of those involved in the plot reportedly said.

It has been reported that the army knows who the military chiefs involved in the plot are, but did not wish to act in order not to commit "injustices," because it is known that some of them were only "sounded out." It was stressed that the coup leaders desisted when they realized that their plans did not have the general support of the armed forces and that only 20 percent of the military backed them.

Also, the U.S. warning to withdraw all aid from a rightist coup and the Panamanian reaction to William Bowdler's inquiries at the precise moment at which the coup was planned had a considerable effect in squelching it. In reply to the national strike declared by the ANEP, the government junta warned that any business which went on strike "would be turned over to the workers." This prevented the strike.

In response to the official announcement on the implementation of some reforms this week, the ANEP is continuing to consider the possibility of a national strike while inside the armed forces the differences still persist between those who support the present junta and those who doubt its stability. However, at least for the time being, a coup d'etat has been discounted.

GOVERNMENT DEFINES STAND AGAINST TERRORISTS

PA050259 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1225 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] The government of the republic hereby announces:

1. That it will not accept conditions or commitments imposed by political or labor organizations which are effected by violent pressure on government officials or by means of occupation of public buildings or the taking of hostages, because these actions are not only illegal but also a flagrant violation of human rights.

2. That any agreement signed under these circumstances, as in the case of the National Administration of Waterworks and Sewers has no value to the government and therefore the signing of such a document does not imply compliance.

3. That those who attack public property will be tried according to the law by the proper tribunals.

4. That the government will continue taking the necessary measures to maintain law and order and guarantee the properties of the state, which belong to the Salvadoran people.

5. That it reaffirms to the people its firm intention of advancing the structural changes the country needs through a democratic process of justice and freedom.

Presidential Palace, 4 March 1980.

MAJANO VOWS STRONG HAND AGAINST ENEMIES

PA040257 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1720 GMT 3 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Col Adolfo Arnaldo Majano, member of the Salvadoran Revolutionary Government Junta, has told domestic and foreign newsmen that the agrarian reform law will be enacted at any moment and that this will mark a new stage in the Salvadoran process, characterized by a strong hand against the enemies of Salvadoran democracy. Majano said: Everything has been completed; we are only waiting for the opportune moment to implement it.

Colonel Majano said the government that followed the 15 October coup has been soft and has permitted constant harassment from the extreme right and left. But the party is over, he said, and from now on we will take strong action against the enemies of the democratic reform process.

Referring to officials of Gen Carlos Humberto Romero's foreign administration, Majano said: Some former ministers have harassed the Revolutionary Government Junta in spite of the fact that we have proof that they committed irregularities and frauds during the previous government period.

Asked whether the strong hand would be applied within the armed forces against dissident groups, Majano said, "of course, if the discipline and unity which now exists is relaxed."

FAPU LEADER CONSIDERS SITUATION RIPE FOR REVOLUTION

PA041849 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Interview with Augusto Coto, international relations secretary of the Salvadoran United Popular Action Front--recorded; date, place not given]

[Text] [Question] What conditions exist in El Salvador for an imminent or future liberation?

[Answer] We believe we are in the home stretch, that conditions already exist for the people to seize power through revolution. For this, some democratic sectors must still join the revolutionary movement and this is precisely what we seek through this new government program which the popular movement has drafted.

[Question] What is the present situation in El Salvador?

[Answer] A situation of unrestrained violence on the part of the most reactionary sectors in which the government has absolutely no power. And in this situation, in which the junta is weak, the oligarchy seeks to retake power and bathe our country in blood, but our organization is preparing for this.

[Question] What do the Salvadoran people think of the aid U.S. imperialism is giving the Salvadoran dictatorship?

[Answer] Imperialism is giving support to the present junta because the 15 October coup was supposed to have been imperialism's political answer to the crisis occurring in the country. But since the junta has been unable to gather the support of popular sectors, it naturally has to find another alternative. One alternative would be a countercoup or a new coup d'etat in which the oligarchy would again seize control. Another option would be the invasion of a mercenary army from Guatemala, which has been in preparation for some time. Still another would be--if this does not succeed--direct intervention of imperialism. That is, today we are passing through a period of crisis, of danger because a direct intervention of U.S. imperialism in El Salvador could occur.

[Question] How do you view the progress of the Nicaraguan revolution?

[Answer] We consider it very positive, exemplary for our Central American countries. We, as Central Americans, feel very close to the Nicaraguan revolution. We follow it with enthusiasm and we believe that in the same measure as the Nicaraguan revolution consolidates, so will it give moral force to us to seek changes in our countries.

[Question] How does the consolidation of the Sandinist peoples revolution reflect on the Salvadoran people?

[Answer] Basically, as Companero Borge, as Commander Borge has stated, the exportation of the Nicaraguan revolution is a [word indistinct] term and the example the Sandinist National Liberation Front has just given us by overthrowing one of Latin America's most opprobrious dictatorships. This means that we too can triumph in our country and we can unite all the revolutionary and democratic forces to give our Latin America another example.

GUATEMALA

HAVANA REPORTS MASSIVE REPRESSION CAMPAIGN BY GOVERNMENT

PA291949 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Feb 80 PA

[Excerpt] The Poor People's Guerrilla Army [EGP] has charged that the largest repressive military operation in the country's history is currently underway in Guatemala.

The guerrilla organization claims that the government of Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia has thrown 50 percent of its troops into the operation.

The thrust of the repression campaign is focused on seven of the country's departments in which the EGP and the Armed People's Organization are active.

ATTEMPTED ATTACK ON DETACHMENT IN EL QUICHE REPORTED

PA041636 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1504 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 4 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--An attempted attack on a military detachment in Nebaj, El Quiche, in Guatemala's northwestern region, has left six dead and eight wounded, all of them civilians.

The detachment was surrounded by a mob "incited by subversive criminals," the person in charge of the army's public relations officially reported today. According to the official version, the crowd maintained the siege for 1 1/2 hours yesterday afternoon in an attempt to dislodge the soldiers, "who withstood the attack peacefully and tried to dissuade the attackers."

"The soldiers were forced to repel the attack when they saw that they were being attacked with weapons of various calibers. They first fired shots into the air but they could not stop the crowd. This resulted in a confrontation which left six killed and eight wounded among the attackers," the army officially reports.

The report adds that "the citizens must recall that provoking these clashes is part of a plan by subversive elements who follow foreign orders in an attempt to seek victims and martyrs." The army bulletin also urged all citizens not to pay any attention to subversive propaganda noting that "the presence of the army in El Quiche as well as in the rest of the country is solely to abide by its constitutional duty."

NICARAGUA

BORGE SAYS U.S. STILL TRYING TO INTERVENE IN COUNTRY

PA041722 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Tomas Borge said in Mexico today that the United States is still trying to intervene in Nicaragua. A PRENSA LATINA report from Cocoyoc, Mexico says: The United States continues with its interventionist intentions in Nicaragua, Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge charged here today.

Borge is attending a private meeting of the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties [COPPPAL]. He said that the U.S. intervention has not materialized thanks to the active solidarity of Latin America, but the danger of it continues.

He added that an example of that interventionism is the recent loan granted to his country by the U.S. Government. Nicaragua does not accept any conditions for the international aid required for the country's reconstruction. If these conditions become intolerable, we will reject them vigorously, Borge stressed.

The Nicaraguan minister denied that Guatemalan and Guatemalan and Salvadoran revolutionaries are receiving military training in Nicaragua as reported by Guatemalan and Salvadoran Government spokesmen. Such charges are false, although we cannot prevent the Nicaraguan example from influencing the struggle of the people of Guatemala and El Salvador, he emphasized.

Borge predicted that after some time, substantial political changes will occur in Latin America, particularly in Central America.

In answering several questions, the interior minister said that the Government of National Reconstruction advocates the existence of a mixed economy in Nicaragua. The mixed economy will continue to exist and state intervention will be carried out when we detect a deliberate removal of capital from the enterprises, he said.

Regarding the territorial conflict with Colombia, he noted that Nicaragua is convinced that the issue can be solved through negotiations at international forums.

SANDINO TO BROADCAST REPORTS ON U.S. INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

PA011650 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpts] The newscast "Extra" returns to the air today at a time when it is very clear to Nicaragua that today's enemy is the same as the enemy of yesteryear. The shady forces which in the immediate past gave encouragement to a killer dictatorship are the same forces which today are maneuvering to create a difficult climate for the Nicaraguan peoples' government.

The enemy continues to be imperialism. The Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] did not make a mistake when, from its very beginnings as it was led by Carlos Fonseca, it said that the struggle in Nicaragua was directed not only against Somoza, but against the system.

Now, the tyrant has been gone for 8 months. It is now 8 months since we began to build the free fatherland. But the basic enemy is not resigned to the loss of its positions or its interests. Imperialism is attacking. It has implemented a complete plan designed solely to block the people's advance toward their total social liberation.

It has already been very aptly said that the CIA is the political leader of the counterrevolution. The CIA is active in Nicaragua. We would have known this, even if it had not been revealed in the U.S. Congress.

The CIA is repeating the methods used in Chile to overthrow Salvador Allende. But we can say right now with absolute certainty that the counterrevolution is doomed to failure in Nicaragua.

We also announce today to our listeners that we will broadcast a series of reports on the evil episodes inscribed by the CIA in the history of many peoples.

WORKERS TO PROTEST 5 MAR IN FRONT OF U.S. EMBASSY

PA050425 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] "Hands Off Nicaragua" and "No More Intervention," are some of the placards which will be carried by demonstrating workers on Wednesday. They will leave from the Sandinist Workers Central and march to the U.S. Embassy. Our workers want to show in this way their rejection of CIA efforts to destabilize our development.

GRENADIAN TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES IN HAVANA

FL141856 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Feb 80 FL

[Text] A delegation from the Revolutionary People's Government of Grenada headed by Selwyn Strachan, minister of government and member of the New Jewel Party Directorate, has arrived here. The delegation also includes (Jules Bullen), minister of state, and other officials.

Welcoming them at the airport were Comrade Ricardo Cabrizas, Cuban foreign trade minister; Jose Diaz Mirabal, president of the Chamber of Commerce; and Arnold Rodriguez, director of the Latin America section in the Foreign Trade Ministry. Talks between the distinguished visitors and Cuban business leaders are slated to begin today. This morning the Grenadian trade delegation visited the Foreign Trade Ministry where the delegation members were received by Minister Cabrizas, Manuel Estefania, vice minister of foreign trade, and other ministry officials. Aslo present were Richard Jacobs, Grenada's ambassador to Cuba, and Julian Torres Rizo, Cuba's ambassador to Grenada. The delegation is made up of government officials and businessmen who will increase trade relations between the two countries through these talks.

Talks Open

FL142319 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 14 Feb 80 FL

[Text] Official talks between the trade delegation of Grenada's Revolutionary People's Government and the Cuban Foreign Trade Ministry opened this morning. The Grenadian side is headed by Selwyn Strachan, minister of labor, public works and communications, and the Cuban side by Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas. Participating in the talks together with Strachan are Minister of State (Jules Lande Bullen), Chamber of Commerce president (Moralte N. Thompson) and Grenada's Ambassador to Cuba W. Richard Jacobs.

Other Cuban officials attending the talks are Vice Minister of Foreign Trade Manuel Estefania, Chamber of Commerce President Jose M. Diaz Mirabal and Foreign Trade Ministry Directors Amadeo Blanco and Arnold Rodriguez. The Grenadian officials, who arrived in Cuba last night on an official visit, will be received by Cuban Government leaders and visit production centers and places of historical interest.

Strachan Meets Officials

FL161221 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Feb 80 FL

[Text] Selwyn Strachan, minister of the Revolutionary People's Government of Grenada, yesterday held talks with Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister-president of the state Committee for Economic Cooperation between the two countries. Minister Strachan also met with Joaquin Benavides, minister-president of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security [as heard] and visited various centers of socioeconomic interest.

1980 TRADE PROTOCOL WITH PRC SIGNED IN HAVANA

FL041744 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The 1980 trade protocol between the Republic of Cuba and the PRC has been signed at the Foreign Trade Ministry in Havana. The document was signed by Jose de la Fuente and Zheng Yishan, vice ministers of foreign trade of Cuba and the PRC, respectively.

FIDEL CASTRO CHAIRS SUGAR HARVEST MEETING

FL011321 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 1 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party Central Committee, has chaired a meeting to examine the status of the current sugar harvest. The results obtained from the beginning of the harvest through February were examined at the meeting in which the party first secretaries from the provinces participated. Completion of the harvest before 1 May also was discussed.

Special emphasis was given to implementing urgent and indispensable measures during March and April, which represent the most appropriate period for successful completion of the harvest because of the high sugarcane yield [in those months]. The measures are connected with the sugarcane industry and agriculture as well as with material and technical facilities and the labor force.

During the meeting, Fidel referred to the spring and winter sugarcane planting plan which is decisive for recovering somewhat from the damage caused by the sugarcane rust disease that has appreciably reduced this year's sugar production. In this regard, he pointed out that the mobilization emergency must be extended to May and June so that the spring planting plan and weeding and cultivation of sugarcane fields can be rigorously completed, [adding that] these objectives are simultaneous and not a single minute can be lost.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro made the closing remarks at the meeting. He was precise in pointing out to the party and government leaders the specific and immediate tasks to be undertaken.

Larger Harvest Needed

FL031132 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Speaking at the ceremony to mark the 15th anniversary of the millionaire movement, Central Committee Secretariat member Jorge Risquet has said: We must try to regain sugar production levels to counter the damage caused by sugarcane rust. Risquet said that, faced with the difficulties caused by this plague along with blue mold in tobacco and swine fever, we can only depend on our sugar to recoup from the ensuing economic damage. Risquet said that it is important to reach maximum production in the current harvest and to eradicate the diseased variety, thus safeguarding the next harvest. Speaking at the ceremony, Risquet outlined the main areas which need to be worked on in accordance with the guidelines set by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in the most recent analysis of the sugar harvest.

BRIEFS

CANADIAN COMMUNIST LEADER VISITS--The secretary general of the Canadian Communist Party, William Kashtan and his wife have visited the PCC Central Committee offices to have a friendly meeting with Antonio Perez Herrero, member of the Central Committee Secretariat. The meeting was held in a fraternal atmosphere and opinions on relations between the two parties and the strengthening of ties of friendship were exchanged. Kashtan has been visiting Cuba since 28 February and has visited several areas of touristic and economic interest. Yesterday afternoon the delegation visited the Lenin School and met with the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution in Havana. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Mar 80 FL]

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT: EMBASSY SITUATION IS PRIORITY ISSUE

PA030034 Paris AFP in Spanish 1914 GMT 2 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpts] Santo Domingo, 2 Mar (AFP)--Dominican President Antonio Guzman said here today that the situation in the Dominican Embassy in Bogota, which was taken over by a leftist group on Wednesday, is a priority issue.

An official report said that President Guzman has asked the Foreign Ministry to maintain a 24-hour watch in the area of the embassy. Foreign Secretary Emilio Ludovino Fernandez said that President Guzman asked him to keep him constantly informed of the developments. The president carries a 2-way radio with him all the time to keep up with events.

COMMUNIST PARTY CHIEF CONDEMNS U.S. 'INTERFERENCE'

FL041952 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1918 GMT 4 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Narciso Isa Conde, secretary general of the Communist Party of the Dominican Republic, has denounced U.S. Government interference in the domestic affairs of the Dominican Republic.

In an interview granted to the Mexican newspaper UNO MAS UNO, Isa Conde specifically referred to the offers of assistance from Gen Dennis McAuliffe, commander of the U.S. Armed Forces Southern Command, to Dominican President Antonio Guzman to crush communist activities.

Isa Conde also noted the unwise national policy of the current Dominican Government, referring to the growth of the foreign debt. He added that the Dominican Government has not fulfilled its electoral promises regarding nationalization of natural resources.

VALDEZ HILARIO TURNS DOWN IADB POST IN WASHINGTON

FL041401 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 Mar 80 FL

[Excerpt] Maj Gen Adriano Valdez Hilario yesterday afternoon asked President Antonio Guzman Fernandez to retire him since he does not wish to hold the post of the Dominican Republic's representative to the Inter-American Defense Board in Washington. The high-ranking officer said he is ready to continue serving the country as long as he is assigned to another position. Valdez Hilario presented President Guzman Fernandez with a letter making his request. It could not be immediately learned what the president's decision was. The former armed forces secretary also denied reports that he was in ill health. Major General Valdez Hilario chatted with newsmen covering the national palace shortly after his meeting with President Guzman.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ANDEAN GROUP APPROVES SOCIAL-LABOR PLAN OF ACTION

PA020021 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 1 Mar 80 PA

[Text] The first meeting of the labor ministers' delegates of the Andean Group has ended with approval of the system that will prevail in determining the plan of action that will serve the Andean Group as a guideline in social and labor matters. Among the decisions approved at the meeting, held 27-29 February in Quito, was to recommend the participation of workers and employers in the Andean Group's meetings and to modify the functions of the Andean commissions to be more effective.

ROLDOS DOCTRINE RECOGNIZED AT PANAMA CONCLAVE

PA041918 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 4 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Quito--The Roldos doctrine, according to which the defense of human rights does not represent any violation of the principle of nonintervention, was recognized in Panama at the close of an expanded meeting of Latin American democratic nations to promote the defense of human rights.

Ambassador Horacio Sevilla Borja, international policy adviser of the presidency of the republic, said that the meeting had recognized what it described as the Roldos doctrine, whereby the defense of human rights is compatible with the principle of nonintervention. He explained that the defense and respect of human rights is an international commitment, which all states must honor.

URUGUAY

SAFEGUARD MEASURES TAKEN TO PROTECT EMBASSIES

PY041659 Paris AFP in Spanish 1510 GMT 1 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Montevideo, 1 Mar (AFP)--Uruguayan Interior Minister Manuel J. Nunez announced today that all embassies accredited to Uruguay will receive greater protection. According to Nunez, the measure, which establishes an increase in the number of guards in charge of the safety of the embassies, was adopted as a result of the recent guerrilla attack on the Dominican Embassy in Colombia. General Nunez condemned the attack and noted that "once again international rights have been violated by this action." Nunez noted to the press that, although Uruguay "is experiencing an atmosphere of peace," deeds of this nature "must be prevented."

BLOC TO COUNTER HUMAN RIGHTS PRESSURE DENIED

PY272009 Montevideo Radio el Espectador Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 27 Feb 80 PY

[Excerpt] Commenting on the Geneva human rights meeting and the possible formation of a bloc to counter international pressure, Foreign Minister Adolfo Folle-Martinez made the following statement to El Espectador: [Begin recording] [Folle-Martinez] I have time and again denied the existence of blocs. The fact that we agree with some countries on certain subjects does not mean that we are forming blocs. We may agree not only with countries of the Southern Cone but also with more distant countries.

[Question] What was the reaction to the letters sent to Kurt Waldheim by several Uruguayan citizens outlining the problems they endured when subversion prevailed in our country?

[Answer] Well, I understand the letters are being studied by those officials charged with debating the human rights issue in Uruguay. As you know, many letters were sent. It is believed that more than 6,000 letters were sent. These letters convey the people's desire to share and to support the government's actions in this field. [end recording]

BRIEFS

PETROLEUM RESERVES--The National Fuels, Alcohol and Cement Administration [ANCAP] has reported that Uruguay has petroleum reserves for 60 days. [Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 22 Feb 80 PY]

MEAT SALE TO EGYPT--The Uruguayan agriculture minister confirmed today that 4,000 tons of meat have been sold to Egypt. [Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 29 Feb 80 PY]

SURINAME

ARRON TO HAND OVER PORTFOLIOS, RESIGN THIS WEEKEND

FL041924 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 4 Mar 80 FL

[Text] According to Suriname's Military Council, Prime Minister Henck Arron has offered to hand over all his portfolios and resign his post. The announcement was made today at the first press conference held by the army's noncommissioned officers who staged a coup last week Monday, toppling the Henck Arron government. Although Mr Arron has not yet resigned, he is expected to do so by this weekend when a new government of national unity will be announced. The deposed prime minister and the 11 Cabinet ministers are in detention and can be held for at least 60 days. At the same time, the Military Council has announced that it will be setting up a commission of inquiry to probe into the activities of the Henck Arron administration.

VENEZUELA

PRESIDENT HERRERA, HONDURAN FOREIGN MINISTER MEET

PA290006 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 28 Feb 80 PA

[Text] The tense situation in Central America and the Caribbean is being discussed by President Luis Herrera Campins and Honduran Foreign Minister Eliseo Perez Cadalso. They are now meeting at the presidency. Honduran Foreign Minister Perez Cadalso arrived in Venezuela from San Jose, Costa Rica. At their meeting Herrera Campins and Perez Cadalso will also discuss the technical, commercial and energy cooperation Venezuela is giving Honduras and the possible installation of a democratic regime in that Central American nation.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS REINFORCEMENT OF EMBASSY GUARDS

PA290005 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 28 Feb 80 PA

[Text] The interior minister has ordered the Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services and the metropolitan police to reinforce the guards at the embassies and consulates here in Caracas. The measure was ordered to prevent assaults such as the one at the Dominican Republic Embassy in Bogota, Colombia. The security operation was implemented early this morning. In the event they are needed, National Guard troops will be added.